

### CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A cover for a hot tub or spa, comprising:  
  
a structural, non-water absorbing, plastic core, a portion of said core being a single piece of plastic, said ~~core~~ portion including upper and lower walls spaced from one another and a plurality of spaced ribs extending between said upper and lower walls, said spaced ribs defining a plurality of openings therebetween; and  
  
a water resistant jacket enclosing said core.
2. (Previously presented) The cover of claim 1 wherein said core includes:  
  
two core halves, each half being a single unitary piece; and  
  
a hinge hingedly interconnecting said halves, whereby said cover can be folded in half for removal and installation.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously presented) The cover of claim 1 further comprising an insulated foam within said openings.
5. (Previously presented) The cover of claim 2 wherein each half includes a hinged edge and a peripheral edge, said upper wall sloping downwardly from said hinged edge to said peripheral edge.
6. (Currently amended) A cover for a hot tub or a spa, comprising:  
  
a polymeric core, a portion of said core being a single unitary piece, said portion including an upper wall and a lower wall, said upper wall having a central portion and an outer

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edge, said upper wall sloping downwardly from said central portion to said outer edge, said core further including a plurality of ribs extending between said upper and lower walls; and

a water resistant jacket enclosing said core.

7. (Original) The cover of claim 6 wherein said cover is hinged in said central portion, whereby said cover can be folded approximately in half.

8. (Original) The cover of claim 7 further comprising an insulating material between said ribs.

9. (New) The cover of claim 1 wherein said openings are filled with air.